



**PATENT**

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**(Case No. 00-524-B)**

<b>In re Application of:</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Mertens et al.</b>	)	
	)	<b>Group Art Unit: TBA</b>
<b>Serial No.: 10/617,288</b>	)	
	)	<b>Examiner: TBA</b>
<b>Filed: July 7, 2003</b>	)	
	)	
<b>For: Method and Apparatus For</b>	)	
<b>Liquid-Treating And Drying</b>	)	
<b>A Substrate</b>	)	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure provided by 37 §§ C.F.R. 1.56 and 1.97-98, the applicant wishes to make the references listed in the enclosed Form PTO-1449 of record in the above-identified application.

It is requested that the references be given careful consideration and that they be cited of record in the present application so that they will appear on the face of the patent issuing from the present application. Return of the initialed PTO-1449 indicating the Examiner's consideration of the references is requested.

In the judgment of the undersigned, portions of the references may be material to the examination of the pending claims. However, the references have not been reviewed in sufficient

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detail to make any other representation and, in particular, no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. This Statement is not a representation that the cited references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 102 or 103. This information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the statement or cited references are, or are considered to be, material to patentability. 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (h).

Respectfully submitted,  
**McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff**

Dated: October 6, 2003

By:   
Lisa M. Schoedel  
Reg. No. 53,564

FORM PTO-1449  
(Rev. 2-32)

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Docket No.

00-524-B

Serial No.

10/617,288

Applicant: **Mertens, et al.**

Filing Date:

07/09/03

Group:

TBA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	No.	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	1.	5,569,330	10/29/1996	Schild et al.	134	1	05/17/94
	2.	5,571,337	11/05/1996	Mohindra et al.	134	25.4	05/09/95

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	No.	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	3.	0 385 536	09/05/1990	EP	H01L	21/00		
	4.	0 817 246	01/07/1998	EP	H01L	21/00		
	5.	44 13 077	10/19/1995	DE	C23G	5/00		X
	6.	99/08057	02/18/1999	WO	F26B	5/00		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc).

Examiner Initial	No.	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.